

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/689,816

Examiner

Aravind K. Moorthy

Applicant(s)

SINGH ET AL.

Art Unit

2131

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 14 November 2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-10, 12, 14-22 and 24.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date see attachment
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 1/23/2008
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

CHRISTOPHER REVAK
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

1. This is in response to the amendment filed on 14 November 2007.
2. Claims 1-10, 12, 14-22 and 24 are pending in the application.
3. Claims 1-10, 12, 14-22 and 24 have been allowed.
4. Claims 11, 13 and 23 have been cancelled.

Information Disclosure Statement

5. The examiner has considered the information disclosure statement (IDS) filed on 13 November 2007.

Response to Amendment

6. The examiner approves of the amendment made to claim 1. There is no longer any issue regarding insufficient antecedent basis for "on the canvas".
7. The examiner approves of the amendment made to claims 1, 2, 10, 12, 14, 15, 18, 19 and 24. No new matter has been added. The applicant has shown support for the amendment in the specification.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

8. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Gregory R. Grace on 23 January 2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1 (Amended) A method for capturing an electronic signature of a user in a java based environment on a personal digital assistant (PDA) for verifying delivery of a package, comprising:

- capturing an instance of the electronic signature by a canvas application;
- encoding by the canvas the instance of the electronic signature in a file, wherein the canvas application has exclusive access to captured electronic signatures on the PDA;
- encoding an identification number of a second application loaded on the PDA for the delivery of the package to generate an encoded identifier;
- combining the encoded signature with the encoded identifier to generate a signature/identifier pair;
- encoding the signature/identifier pair;
- transferring the encoded signature/identifier pair to a remote CRM application; and
- responsive to receiving a verification from the remote CRM application, if the ~~signature/application~~ signature/identifier pair is verified then authorizing the delivery of the package, otherwise not authorizing the delivery of the package.

Claim 12 (Amended) A personal digital assistant (PDA) for capturing an electronic signature of a user for verifying delivery of a package, comprising:

- a pressure sensitive screen; and
- a processing system adapted to[.];
- capture an instance of the electronic signature by a canvas application;

encode by the canvas the instance of the electronic signature in a file,
wherein the canvas application has exclusive access to captured electronic
signatures on the PDA;

encode an identification number of a second application loaded on the
PDA for the delivery of the package to generate an encoded identifier;

combine the encoded signature with the encoded identifier to generate a
signature/identifier pair;

transfer the encoded signature/identifier pair to a remote CRM application;
and

responsive to receipt of a verification from the remote CRM application, if
the ~~signature/application~~ signature/identifier pair is verified then authorize the
delivery of the package, otherwise not authorize the delivery of the package,
wherein the processing system is operated in a java based environment.

Claim 18 (Amended) A computer readable medium embodying computer instructions
that, when executed by a computer, perform a method for capturing an electronic signature of a
user in a java based environment on a personal digital assistant (PDA) for verifying delivery of a
package, the method comprising:

capturing an instance of the electronic signature by a canvas application;

encoding by the canvas the instance of the electronic signature in a file,
wherein the canvas application has exclusive access to captured electronic
signatures on the PDA;

encoding an identification number of a second application loaded on the PDA for the delivery of the package to generate an encoded identifier;

combining the encoded signature with the encoded identifier to generate a signature/identifier pair;

encoding the signature/identifier pair;

transferring the encoded signature/identifier pair to remote CRM application; and

responsive to receiving a verification from the remote CRM application, if the ~~signature/application~~ signature/identifier pair is verified then authorizing the delivery of the package, otherwise not authorizing the delivery of the package.

Claim 24 (Amended) A network, comprising:

a personal digital assistant (PDA) for capturing an electronic signature of a user for verifying delivery of a package adapted to[,]

capture an instance of the electronic signature by a canvas application;

encode by the canvas the instance of the electronic signature in a file, wherein the canvas application has exclusive access to captured electronic signatures on the PDA;

encode an identification number of a second application loaded on the PDA for the delivery of the package to generate an encoded identifier;

combine the encoded signature with the encoded identifier to generate a signature/identifier pair;

encode the signature/identifier pair;

transfer the encoded signature/identifier pair to a remote CRM application;
and

responsive to receipt of a verification from the remote CRM application, if
the ~~signature/application~~ signature/identifier pair is verified then authorize the
delivery of the package, otherwise not authorize the delivery of the package;

a server adapted to receive the encoded signature/identifier pair from the
PDA;

wherein the server compares the encoded signature/identifier to a stored
signature/identifier file and sends a verification to the ~~mobile device~~ PDA if the
result of the comparison is determined to be a match.

Allowable Subject Matter

9. Claims 1-10, 12, 14-22 and 24 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The current application is directed towards a method for capturing an electronic signature of a user in a java based environment on a personal digital assistant. The method including prompting the user by an applet operating on the personal digital assistant, handling a canvas by the applet, and capturing an instance of the electronic signature on the canvas. The method further includes encoding by the canvas the instance of the electronic signature in a file and transferring the file by the canvas to the applet. A personal digital assistant including a screen sensitive to pressure for capturing a signature and an application adapted to capture the signature and attach the signature to a business object. In the personal digital assistant, the application further includes an applet adapted to prompt a user and adapted to handle a canvas. The canvas is

adapted to capture an instance of the electronic signature and encode the instance in a file. The file is transferred by the canvas to the applet. A computer readable medium including a method for capturing an electronic signature of a user in a java based environment on a personal digital assistant.

The closest prior art to the current application was Algazi et al US 2004/0083371 A1 (hereinafter Algazi). Algazi is directed towards a method and system for providing a verified delivery of a package. First, registration information is obtained from a recipient; the registration information includes a biometric identification of the recipient. A delivery service obtains the package from a sender which is addressed to the recipient and forwards the package to the recipient. At the point of delivery, the delivery service obtains a further biometric identification from the recipient using a portable device which includes a biometric reader. The delivery service releases the package to the recipient only if the biometric identification is substantially identical to the further biometric identification.

There are differences between Algazi and the current application. Algazi discloses obtaining the signature of the authorized representative during delivery of a package. However, Algazi does not explicitly teach that the signature is captured by a canvas application. Algazi does not disclose, teach or fairly suggest encoding by the canvas the instance of the electronic signature in a file. Algazi does not disclose, teach or fairly suggest that the canvas application has exclusive access to captured electronic signatures on the PDA. Algazi does not disclose, teach or fairly suggest encoding an identification number of a second application loaded on the PDA for the delivery of the package to generate an encoded identifier. Algazi does not disclose, teach or fairly suggest combining the encoded signature with the encoded identifier to generate a

signature/identifier pair. Algazi does not disclose, teach or fairly suggest encoding the signature/identifier pair. Algazi does not disclose, teach or fairly suggest transferring the encoded signature/identifier pair to a remote CRM application. Algazi does not disclose, teach or fairly suggest responsive to receiving verification from the remote CRM application, if the signature/identifier pair is verified then authorizing the delivery of the package, otherwise not authorizing the delivery of the package.


Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Aravind K. Moorthy whose telephone number is 571-272-3793. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:00-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz R. Sheikh can be reached on 571-272-3795. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Aravind K Moorthy 
January 24, 2008

CHRISTOPHER REVAK
PRIMARY EXAMINER

